## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:	) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY ) EXPRESS MAIL
Christopher Padgett; and	)
William B. Erb	) EXPRESS MAIL NO.
	) EL 849 000 250 US
Serial No.	)
	) I hereby certify that this correspondence is
Filed: Herewith	) being deposited with the United States Postal
	) Service as Express Mail Post Office to
For: Method of Manufacturing a Hardhart	) Addressee with sufficient postage on the date
	) indicate below and is addressed to
Examiner: Not yet assigned	) Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
	) Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned	
	) Am M. To
	) / Joseph M. Butscher
	) / Reg. No. 48,326
	) Date: June 20, 2003

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that the following reference(s) be considered in the examination of the above-identified patent application:

USP 6,453,476 USP 6,446,270 USP 6,317,895 USP 6,298,498 USP 6,292,952 USP 6,260,212 USP 6,159,324 USP 6,154,889 USP 6,032,297 USP 5,898,949 USP 5,619,754 USP 5,609,802 USP 5,565,155 USP 5,319,808 USP 5,298,208 USP 5,150,479 USP 5,117,506 USP 5,044,016 USP 4,656,667 USP 4,615,438 USP 4,051,555 USP D431,328 USP D421,820 USP D420,771 USP D420,770

The above-identified reference(s) are listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 and copies are also enclosed herewith.

This submission, is in no way intended as an admission that the above-cited references constitute prior art under any subsection of 35 U.S.C. § 102. Applicant expressly retains the right to take any actions necessary to remove the above-cited references from the available prior art.

Consideration of the above-identified references in the examination of the present patent application is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be due because it is believed that this statement and enclosures are being filed before the first Office Action on the merits has been mailed by the PTO. The basis of this belief is that no Office Action on the merits appears to have been received by the undersigned to date. Please charge any fees due in connection with this statement to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd., Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,

oseph M. Butscher-

Reg. No. 48,326

Form PTO-1449 (Rev. 8-83)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE				ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)					14186US01			
						APPLICANT:		
						Padgett; Erb		
						FILING DATE Herewith	GROUP ART UNIT:	
		U.S. PATENT DO	CUMENTS					
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		6,453,476	9/24/02	Moore, III				
		6,446,270	9/10/02	Durr				
		6,317,895	11/20/01	Erth et al.				
		6,298,498	10/9/01	Burns et al.				
		6,292,952	9/25/01	Watters et al.			_	
		6,260,212	7/17/01	Orotelli et al.				
		6,159,324	12/12/00	Watters et al.				
		6,154,889	12/5/00	Moore, III et al.				
		6,032,297	3/7/00	Barthold et al.				
		5,898,949	5/4/99	Barthold et al.				
		5,619,754	4/15/97	Thurwanger et al.				
		5,609,802	3/11/97	Jeng				
		5,565,155	10/15/96	Cheng-Hung				
		5,319,808	6/14/94	Bishop et al.				
		5,298,208	3/29/94	Sibley et al.				
		5,150,479	9/29/92	Oleson				
		5,117,506	6/2/92	Byrnes et al.				
		5,044,016	9/3/91	Coombs				
		4,656,667	4/14/87	Blake				
		4,615,438	10/7/86	Roseberg et al.				
		4,051,555	10/4/77	Daly				
		D431,328	9/26/00	Tanner				
		D421,820	3/21/00	Johnson				
		D420,771	2/15/00	Burns				
		D420,770	2/15/00	Burns				

## **EXAMINER**

## DATE CONSIDERED

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO	
								-

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AA	
	ВВ	
	СС	
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED
		ered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not a with next communication to applicant.